



To the Hon. H. A. W. Skeen, Judge of the
Circuit Court for Lee County, Virginia:

Your orator J. P. Hodges, humbly complaining
would show unto the Court that he is now, and has been
for the twelve months next preceding the institution of
this suit, a citizen of this state and of Lee County, that
on the day of 15, he was married to one
Clarinda Hodges; that he was to her an indulgent,
and provident husband, and treated her with the
love and consideration which a husband owes to his
wife; that he gave her no cause to prove false to
her marriage vows and duties.

Yet your orator charges and avers that since
his said marriage with the said Clarinda Hodges, and
within five years from the institution of this suit
that the said Clarinda Hodges has committed the
shameful crime of adultery with various persons
not her lawful husbands, and that said adultery
was committed without your orators consent or
connivance; and your orator avers that he has
not cohabited with the said Clarinda Hodges since
he learned of said adultery.

For as much then as your orator is reminded
save in a Court of Chancery, he prays that the
said Clarinda Hodges be made a party defendant
to this bill, and that she be required to answer
the same, but not upon oath, that being hereby
waived; that your orator may be divorced from the
said Clarinda Hodges, a vinculo matrimonii; that
proper process issue, and all proper orders be made;
And that all such other further and general relief may be afforded
your orator as in the premises may be just and right; and your
orator will ever pray, etc.

J. C. Noel p. q.

J. T. Hodges
vs Bill in Chancery.

Clarinda Hodges

1st Feby rules Bill ^{filed} Spa
not executed & alias sums

2 Feby rules Spa executed

1st March rules taken the
last Monday in Feby
Cause set for hearing

Plaintiffs Costs

Clerk 4.06

Tax 1.50

Shff 50

attly 15.00

J P 1.50

\$22.06

1901 March Term Decree
final Order Book
No 6 Page 496

1900 to 10

1 J. P. Hodges
2 vs
3 Clarinda Hodges } In Chancery.

4 This cause came on this day to be
5 heard upon the plaintiffs bill and papers filed
6 therewith and the depositions taken in the case,
7 and was argued by counsel, and it appearing
8 to the court that the defendant had been served
9 with notice as required by law, and had neither
10 appeared, and answered or demurred to the plaintiffs,
11 and it further appearing to the court independent
12 of the defendants failure to answer or demur, that the
13 allegations contained in the said plaintiffs bill
14 are true; it is therefore, adjudged, ordered and
15 decreed that the bonds of matrimony hitherto
16 entered into and up to this time existing between
17 the said plaintiff and defendant, be dissolved.
18 And this cause is ^{ordered to be} stricken from the docket.

J. T. Hodges
vs } Decree Final
Clarinda Hodges

Entered on ledger
order Book No 6
Page 496

Entered this month
1901.

A. W. S. Allen
Judge.

To Mrs. Lavinia Hodges:

You are hereby notified that on the 16th day of February 1901, at the residence of D. G. McKinney in Lee County Virginia, between the hours of 9 o'clock A.M. and 6 o'clock P.M. of that day, I shall proceed to take the depositions of Martha Hood and others, to be read as evidence in my behalf, in a certain suit in equity, depending in the Circuit Court for the County of Lee, wherein I am plaintiff and you are defendant, and if from any cause the taking of the said depositions be not commenced, or if commenced, be not concluded on that day, the taking of ~~the said depositions~~ thereof will be adjourned from day to day, and from time to time, and from place to place, and between the same hours, until the same shall be completed.

Respectfully

J. P. Hodges

Per Counsel, J. C. Noel

J. P. Hodges

vs { Notice to Take Depositions

Clarinda Hodges

Virginia, Lee County Court,
I D. G. McKinney do
solemnly swear that I executed
the within notice, on the 14
day of Feb. 1901, by delivering
a true copy thereof to
Clarinda Hodges. This
the 15 day of Feb. 1901.

D. G. McKinney
sworn to before me in
my county aforesaid by
the aforesaid

This the 15 day of Feb. 1901.

James Smith J. P.

The depositions of Martha Hood and
D. G. McKinney, J. T. Hodges
taken before me James Smyth, a Justice
of the Peace for the County of Lee, pursuant
to notice hereto annexed at the dwelling house
of D. G. McKinney in Lee County Virginia,
on the 16th day of February 1901, between
the hours of 9 o'clock A.M. and 6 o'clock
P.M., to be read as evidence in behalf
of J. T. Hodges in a certain suit in
equity depending in the Circuit Court
of Lee County, in the State of Virginia,
wherein the said J. T. Hodges is plaintiff
and Clarinda Hodges is defendant.

Present - J. C. Noel, Atty. for Plaintiff.

The witness Martha Hood being duly sworn
deposes as follows:

Ques (1)

Please state your age and residence?

Ans

I am fourteen years old, and live in Wise
County Va, near Spalachia.

Ques (2)

Are you acquainted with J. T. Hodges and
Clarinda Hodges the plaintiff and
defendants in this suit?

Ans

I am.

Ques (3)

At any time with in the last five years
and since the marriage of Clarinda Hodges,
to J. T. Hodges, have you known the said
Clarinda Hodge to have carnal knowledge
of the body of any other man than

1 J.T. Hodges her husband, if so please
2 state as nearly as you can when and
3 where?

Ans

4 I have. About one year ago in the Crab Orchard.
5 with James Adams. I saw them that is
6 Clarinda Hodges and James Adams bed
7 together. Also I have her and Mart-Gillan
8 bed together This was about two years ago.

Ques (4)

9 Has J.T. Hodges lived with Clarinda
10 Hodges since the times you speak of in
11 your last answer?

Ans

12 He has not? And further this deponent
13 says not.
14 Martha ^{her} Hood
mark

15
16 D.G. Mc Kinney another witness of
17 lawful age deposes and says:

Ques (1)

18 State your age, residence and occupation?

Ans

19 I am 29 years old, residence Crab Orchard Va
20 and am a farmer.

Ques (2)

21 Are you acquainted with the plaintiff

22 J.T. Hodges, and the defendant Clarinda Hodges?

Ans

23 I am. J.T. Hodges has been in the Crab Orchard
24 since 1878.

Ques

25 From Dec. 20, 1897, to Sept-1898, please
26 state if you know where J.T. Hodges was
27 and where Clarinda Hodges was at during the
28 same period?

Ans

29 About the 20 of Dec. 1897, J.T. Hodges left
30 the Crab Orchard and was gone to Tennessee
31 so I am informed until some time in Sept 1898

1 when he moved back to the Crab Orchard
2 Clarinda Hodges during the same period
3 lived here in the Crab Orchard and at
4 Minersville, Wise Co., Va.

Ques

6 State any circumstance that may have
7 occurred to convince you that Clarinda
8 Hodges lived in adultery with other men while
9 the said J. T. Hodges was gone to Tennessee in
10 1897 and 1898?

Ans.

11 About January, ¹⁸⁹⁹ she gave birth to a
12 child, which I do not think from the circum-
13 stances could have been sired by her husband
14 J. T. Hodges. The child was born something
15 like twelve months after her husband went
16 away.

Ques

17 Has J. T. Hodges cohabited with Clarinda
18 Hodges since she gave birth to the
19 child you speak of?

20 Not that I have any knowledge of.

Ans

22 What is the reputation of Clarinda
23 Hodges in the neighborhood where she now
24 resides, if you know that reputation, for
25 chastity?

26 Bad.

27 And further this deponent says to wit:

28 D. L. McKinney,

29 J. T. Hodges another witness of lawful
30 age being duly sworn deposes as follows.

Ques

32 Where do you reside, and what connection

have you with this suit?

Ans

I live in the Crab Orchard, Lee County Va,
and have been lived there for more than 2 years
in succession; and am the plaintiff in
this suit.

Ques

What relation do you sustain to the
defendant?

I am her husband, but have not
cohabited with her for nearly five years!

Ques

Why do you not live with her now, and
why have you lived apart from her so long?

Ans

Because she has been so intimate with
other men. I heard of her committing adultery
with other men, so I left her, and have
not cohabited with her since I learned of
her having carnal knowledge of other
men.

And further this deponent says to wit:

J. ^{his} P. Hodge
mark

Virginia, Lee County to wit:

I James Smith a Justice of the Peace
for the County of Lee in the said State
do hereby certify that the foregoing deposition
of Martha Hood, D. S. McKinney and J. P. Hodge
were duly taken, sworn to and subscribed
before me, at the times and place, and for the
purpose therein mentioned.

Given under my hand this 15 day of
Feb. 1901.

James Smith J.P.

J. P. Hodges
207 Depositions
Clarinda Hodges

Received by mail in
good condition and filed
February the 19th 1901
A B Munsey Clerk

Justice Court 1/12
Paid by plaintiff

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of the County of Lee, Greeting:

^{again}
WE COMMAND YOU, That you summon Clarinda Hodges

to appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of the County of Lee, at the rules to be held for the
said court, on the 3rd Monday in February 1901, to answer a bill in
chancery exhibited against her in our said court by J. T. Hodges

And have then there this writ. Witness, A. B. Munsey, Clerk of our said Court, at the court-house,
the 2nd day of February 1901, and in the 12th year of the Common-
wealth. A copy, Teste: A. B. Munsey Clerk.

Clerk.

J. L. Hodges

VS.

SUBPOENA
IN CHANCERY.

Clarinda Hodges

J. C. Noel

P. C.

To 2nd February Rules.
Circuit Court.

Executed by
J. C. Noel
The Clerk of
to Clarinda Hodges
This Feb. 16th 1901.
A. H. H. H.
J. C. Noel

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of the County of Lee, Greeting:

WE COMMAND YOU, That you summon

Clarinda Hodges

to appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of the County of Lee, at the rules to be held for the
said court, on the *1st* Monday in *February* 1901, to answer a bill in

chancery exhibited against

her

in our said court by

J. L. Hodges

And have then there this writ.

Witness, A. B. Munsey, Clerk of our said Court, at the court-house,

the

22nd

day of

January

1901, and in the 12⁵

year of the Common-

wealth.

A copy, Teste:

A. B. Munsey

Clerk.

A. B. Munsey Clerk

~~Clerk~~

VS.

}

SUBPENA
IN CHANCERY.

p. q.

To Rules.

..... Court.

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of the County of Lee, Greeting:

WE COMMAND YOU, That you summon

Clarinda Hodges

to appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of the County of Lee, at the rules to be held for the said court, on the *1st* Monday in *February* 1901, to answer a bill in

chancery exhibited against *her* in our said court by *J. L. Hodges*

And have then there this writ. Witness, A. B. Munsey, Clerk of our said Court, at the court-house,

the *22nd* day of *January* 1901, and in the 12th year of the Common-

wealth.

A copy, Teste:

A. B. Munsey

Clerk.

Clerk.

J. T. Hodges

VS. }

SUBPOENA
IN CHANCERY.

Clairinda Hodges

J. C. Noel

p. q.

To 1st Feby

Rules.

Circuit

Court.

Not Executed for
want of time this
Feb the 2nd 1801
W. J. Milham
J. L. C.